



## Conceptualizing food systems for global environmental change research

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### Abstract:

This paper outlines a framework for studying the multiple interactions of broadly defined food systems with global environmental change and evaluating the major societal outcomes affected by these interactions: food security, ecosystem services and social welfare. In building the framework the paper explores and synthesizes disparate literature on food systems food security and global environmental change, bridging social science and natural science perspectives. This collected evidence justifies a representation of food systems, which can be used to identify key processes and determinants of food security in a given place or time, particularly the impacts of environmental change. It also enables analysis of the feedbacks from food system outcomes to drivers of environmental and social change, as well as tradeoffs among the food system outcomes themselves. In food systems these tradeoffs are often between different scales or levels of decision-making or management, so solutions to manage them must be context-specific. With sufficient empirical evidence, the framework could be used to build a database of typologies of food system interactions useful for different management or analytical purposes.

**Source:** Ask your librarian to help locate this item.

### Resource Description

#### Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change;  
surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Food/Water Security

**Food/Water Security:** Agricultural Productivity, Food Access/Distribution

#### Geographic Feature:

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

## **Geographic Location:**

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Malnutrition/Undernutrition

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

## **Population of Concern:** A focus of content

## **Population of Concern:**

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article, Review

## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified